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Summary record of the 34th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 28 May 2013, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Berger ..... (Germany)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Ruiz Massieu

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 171: Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (A/67/863 and 877)

1. **Mr. Curry** (Director, Peacekeeping Financing Division), introducing the note by the Secretary-General on the financing arrangements for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2013 (A/67/863), said that in the light of the time required to prepare the Mission's results-based budget frameworks and to determine all the resource requirements for the 2013/14 financial period, as well as for their legislative review, the budget for MINUSMA for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 would be submitted to the General Assembly during the main part of its sixty-eighth session. In the interim, the Secretary-General was seeking authority to enter into commitments with assessment to meet the initial and most immediate start-up requirements of the Mission, in order to facilitate its rapid establishment and deployment.

2. **Mr. Ruiz Massieu** (Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/67/877), said that the Advisory Committee recommended that the Assembly authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the period from 25 April to 31 December 2013 in the amount of $454,426,300, but recommended a 10 per cent reduction in the assessment of the commitment authority for that period. As the Secretary-General had recently justified maintaining the existing backstopping capacity within the support account in order to address the needs of additional post-conflict environments that might arise, and considering that there would be some additional available capacity within Headquarters resulting from the closure of United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), the Committee questioned whether the Secretary-General's request for 23 backstopping positions at Headquarters was necessary. The request should also be reflected within the support account proposal and should have been submitted in parallel to the request for commitment authority for MINUSMA. The recommendation to reduce the assessment of the commitment authority also reflected the fact that the Advisory Committee considered the current construction proposal for the period to be unrealistic, given the large number of construction projects to be implemented by 31 December 2013, and took into account the low expenditure pattern of the commitment authority in the amount of $83,690,200 previously authorized by the Advisory Committee. He stressed that the recommendation was without prejudice to any position the Advisory Committee might take on the proposed structure, number and level of posts or on other proposed resources for MINUSMA in the context of the budget submissions.

The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.